To the Right Honourable the

LORDS

K. England. — Parl. — House of Lords. [Petitions and Addresses.]

Spiritual and Temporal,

In Parliament Assembled.

THE CASE

OF THE

DISTILLERS in and about *LONDON.*

IN the BILL for Prohibiting the Excessive Distilling of Spirits from Corn, there is a Clause that gives Power to about Twenty Persons, who made Spirits from Malt between *Michaelmas* 1697, and *Michaelmas* 1698, to Distil Spirits from Malt for the year insuing, exclusive of all others, to wit, half the quantity of Spirits they made in the former year.

AS this Clause is worded, the good intent of the BILL may be evaded: For no Distiller can use the same but those Twenty Persons; and then they may by this BILL take what Prices they please for such Spirits, and thereby ruin the Distillers, and greatly damage the Farmers, by leaving the Course Barley on their hands, being fit for no other use then to be Malted for Distilling.

THERE is above Two hundred Distillers in and about *London*, who have a right to use Malt, and can make Spirits from Malt as well as these Twenty Persons, but now are the Buyers of Malt Spirits, and do re-distill and rectifie the same, and make the same clean and fit to be consumed in kind, and fit for the use of many Handy-crafts-men, who cannot finish their several Manufactures without it: And this way of Dealing is the Livelyhood of more than Two hundred Distillers, which these Twenty Persons may destroy at their pleasure, by enhansing the Price of Spirits.

IF Barley shall be sold at 20 *s.* a Quarter, it will be but 7 ½ *d.* a Peck, and then the Poor House-keeper may have a Pound of Barley Bread for a Half-peny, which is not Dear.

It is therefore humbly proposed, That a Clause may be added to the said BILL, *That when* Malt *made of Barley, shall be publickly sold in the Common Market at* 24 s. *a Quarter, besides the Duty, then any Free Distiller may Distill Spirits from such* Malt; *so as such* Malt *continue in such Publick Market* 24 *hours, before any Distiller or other Person for him, buy the same* Malt, *to the intent the Malster or his Factor, may sell the same* Malt *to any Brewer that will buy the same at a greater Price. This can be no Detriment to the Poor House-keeper, but will effectually answer the End designed by the* BILL, *there being this Year a great deal more Course Barley, fit only to make* Malt *for Distilling, then will be used.*

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LONDON.